

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/980,880
	Filing Date	September 3, 2002
	First Named Inventor	Yoshio GODA, et al.
	Art Unit	1745
	Examiner Name	Robert W. Hodge
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8189US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> PTO 2038 Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
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<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO-2038 Return postcard (2) References EU Search Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
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Firm Name	RatnerPrestia		
Signature			
Printed Name	Lawrence E. Ashery		
Date	March 6, 2007	Registration No.	34,515

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:			
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PAT-8189US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: 09/980,880
Applicant: Y. GODA et al.
Filed: September 3, 2002
Title: TOP SEALING PLATE, BATTERY USING THE TOP SEALING PLATE, AND
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE BATTERY
TC/A.U.: 1745
Examiner: Robert W. Hodge

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b forms submitted herewith. Copies of the references listed, other than U.S. patents, are enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following references are not in the English Language:

1. JP 61-114466
2. JP 59-189557

References 1) and 2) include an English language abstract.

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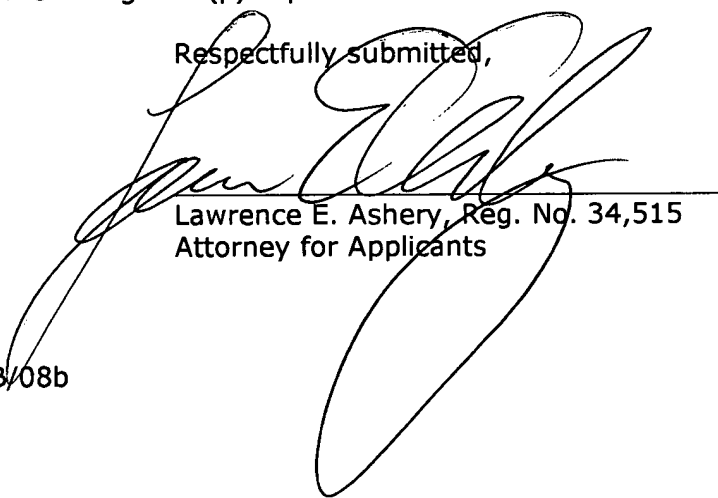
References 1) and 2) were cited by a foreign patent examining authority in connection with the examination of a counterpart of the above identified application. A copy of this English language search report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609(a)iii, second paragraph.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) [choose one]

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is provided herewith.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/bj

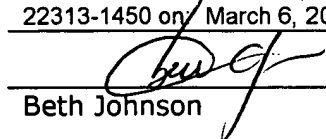
Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b
(2) References
Search Report
Transmittal Form
Credit Card Payment Form

Dated: March 6, 2007

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Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith..

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Beth Johnson

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/980,880
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First Named Inventor	Y. GODA et al.
Art Unit	1745
Examiner Name	Robert W. Hodge
Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8189US

SHEET 1 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-4,662,533	05-05-1987	TAKAHASHI AKIRA et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 61 114466 (w/English Abstract)	06-02-1986	SHIN KOBE ELECTRIC MACHINERY		
		JP 59 189557 (w/English Abstract)	10-27-1984	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		<input type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete If Known

Application Number 09/980,880

Filing Date September 3, 2002

First Named Inventor Y. GODA et al.

Art Unit 1745

Examiner Name Robert W. Hodge

Attorney Docket No. MAT-8189US

SHEET 2 of 2

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		European Search Report for corresponding European Patent Application No. 01 906 345.2 dated February 20, 2007.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

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